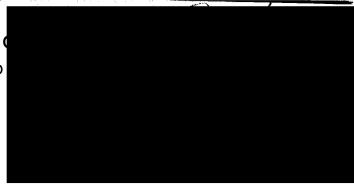
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How Good as U. S. Intelligence?

207,503

## in Missile Bases Pose Serious Questions

MAN TO THE 7 Woshington Sureau

WASHING How Was United States to into the about the S. Wist T. Broading in Cuba?

Did Unit - States spies eatch on to Khrusheheve ter sneak of offensive missiles into the stand as a soon as the sound have? Or were and discussy and did they as old getting caught norm cally in the nick of the

How we have a spice inform: : i d after they good! one my give carlier was a line as white, not end or a london was a naid? West

Altri that this city is explaced by gre anuary, when Con-

On the American public has been and an arruth—and at this point there ... a systence that it has not been A: the trace of a fast, master of the trace of the trace of the trace of Cuba. a chame was nipped in the had, a maning me missiles are with-

#### Summiority Threatened

the few more weeks of the big sneak wellmen discovery apparently would have with a out America's nuclear retaliatory charactes superiority. Khrushchev would has a been in position to poise his finger even button and been, to as feast, a lot tougher to deal with, sobering realization of this has enused wonder about whether the United States intelligence network is working as well as it should.

IN THE PINCH, aerial reconunissance can derough with fast after-the-fact distance of the installation of mobile naviron-conge ballistic missiles Californial by the Soviets in Cuba. It discovered the longer-range intermediateready as Tric missiles (IRBM) baseconstruction reparently before any of these that adjaching pads were ready for launch and And it found the Soviet 11-28 jet number bombers while they

were still being uncrated.

But observers are wedgrissized well be rowed For Release is Clarent and the limiting work was to be intelligence network is doing at the limiting work was took on?"

States to send a mission to Cuban missile bases. til what the second is

Undoubtedly, the United States position; sale information was available to the would be better new if American spies, Realizedy administration. had learned of the Social plan to base

offensive weapons in Cuba before the weapons got there and got set up andaimed at this country, as the Defense, Department says happened in the case of the MRBMs.

IF THE SPIES HAD found out shead of time and given worning, the United States might not new be having to negotiate the missiles of Cuba. A blockade perhaps could brive been clamped on before they got diere. Or a mere warning to Khrushele v to stop their shipment might have been sufficient.

Some members of the Republican Party, where the mo : natural critics of a most if the Democratic administration might be expected to be found, thready have criticized the Kennedy ad ninistration's version of the discovery of the missile bases, or the action taken on this intelligence.

### GOP Charges Politics

The Republican Congressional Campaign Committee words wereing before the President ordered the Cuban blockade and revealed the proof of Soviet offensive missiles in Cuba, said Pres-, ident Kennedy was playing politics in the timing of his revelation of the missiles' presence and the announcement of the blockade just two weeks before the congressional elections.

"THE STATEMENT THAT (his action) , was only because the White House had just discovered the existence on Cuba of

fie (Kennedy) said that only on Oct were offensive. Sea Renneth Keating, R-NY, had said two weeks earlier that he had definite information the itussians were installing intermediate-range missiles in Cuba. Kenned admitted in his nationally televised spreeh that the launching pads and airf elds took months

Claiming that missile bases a built in a week, Scott said. Thore also sile bases were there a long, long time before the President spoke" on Oct 20 and told the nation he had received his first hard preliminary information on the

#### Statements Lack Truth

missile buildup Oct 16.

He said, "The fault might have been in putting this information together and see ing that the President got it."

Some of these statements are lacking of proof, some ill-founded; some appear to disregard the difference between SAMS, surface-to-air missiles, and MRBMs and IRBMs.

Son Keyling of New York has come through the Cuban crisis smelling like a rose, because he has been urging action against Soviet arms in Cuba for weeks and saying all along that the weaponry was offensive. Although he declines to say where he has been getting his information, he has either been getting mighty good information or is a mighty good guesser.

OTHER REPUBLICANS have been sounding off on Keating's information.

But Keating did not claim "for months" or even in early September to know that MRBMs or IRBMs or jet nuclear bombers were in Cuba.

And Mr Kennedy did not "admit" in his televised speech, as the Republican Congressional Commuter said, that "the

missiles capable of striking American launching pads and airfields took months cities sounded brazint false imaginet to build." In making his point about Soats this had been haven for months," viet deception, he said that the size the Republican committee charged in a nowsletter on Octable 18 Democratic leading and this a revening, "unreaskable" for months." The evidence the administration has made public, in fact, indicates that the MREM bases were built In an Oct 23 letter to the mailties cates that the MREM bases were built much faster. much faster.

On Aug 31 Keating said the Soviets had 16 did he discover that missiles in Cuba greatly stepped up shipments of men and . equipment to Cuba some July, and he said 3,000 to 5,000 technicians or troops had arrived during the year.

"MORE OMINOUS reports suggest that the Soviets are constructing missile bases and sending over technicians and ex-perts to man them," Keating said then.

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